

has been identified by his educators for his academic excellence, leadership potential and exemplary citizenship to participate in the Critical Language Scholarship Program in Vladimir, Russia.

This Critical Language Scholarship Program allows students to participate in daily educational activities in Vladimir, Russia, as well as the surrounding areas. The program provides participants with the opportunity to build relationships with young leaders from all over the world with an intense focus in the Russian language, one of the thirteen "critical needs" foreign languages determined by the Department of State, for summer 2012. At the end of the program, participants receive a certificate of completion.

Ethan is a student at Johns Hopkins University. It is inspiring to see young people who are interested in international educational and developmental experiences such as these.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable achievement by Ethan Doyle and wishing his continued success in his further pursuits.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 862, due to family health issues, I was unable to make the vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING PATRICIA NICKLOW

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mrs. Patricia Nicklow, a resident of Essex, Maryland, on the occasion of her retirement from the U.S. Navy's Program Executive Office for Aircraft Carriers after more than 37 years of dedicated service to the federal government.

Patricia Nicklow was born in Baltimore and attended Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Kenwood Senior High Schools in Essex. She is Level III certified in Acquisition Logistics with Level II certifications in both Program Management and Business Financial Management from the Defense Acquisition University.

Over the course of her 37-year career with the federal government, Mrs. Nicklow has developed an extensive background in acquisitions and logistics. She spent 13 years with the General Service Administration throughout the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. She then served 23 years at the Naval Sea Systems Command, including her final nine years at PEO Carriers. During this time, she became the In-Service Logistician for Mine Sweepers and Hunters before finally coming to Aircraft Carriers to work in new construction, mid-life Refueling and Complex Overhauls, and supporting the Navy's in-service Aircraft Carriers.

Mrs. Nicklow's current duties include ensuring that in-service Aircraft Carriers are logistically supported so that sailors are

trained properly to perform and maintain their equipment.

Her well-deserved plans post retirement include more traveling, spending time with family, partaking in health classes, and bowling. Mrs. Nicklow currently lives with her husband and mother.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mrs. Nicklow. Her long and dedicated service to the United States of America is an inspiration to all of us. It is with great pride that I congratulate Mrs. Nicklow on her retirement and wish her the best of luck in the future.

HONORING BRADLEY DONAGHY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bradley Donaghy. Bradley is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bradley has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bradley has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Bradley has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bradley Donaghy for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF THE 2011 FERNANDO AWARD RECIPIENT GARY THOMAS

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Gary Thomas—businessman, civic activist and a very good friend to my wife, Janice, and me—as he is recognized this Friday as the 53rd recipient of the annual Fernando Award.

The Fernando Award is the highest award in California's San Fernando Valley that recognizes exceptional volunteer efforts. It often has been called the Academy Award of Volunteerism in the San Fernando Valley and is one of the top awards for civic accomplishments in the United States.

Gary is well-deserving of this honor.

Gary's community service and volunteerism has spanned more than 37 years and has involved Chambers of Commerce, organizations that have political impact in the San Fernando Valley, anti-gang programs, youth development organizations, leadership and business programs, and nonprofit organizations.

Gary is responsible for creating many innovative fundraising programs for Valley nonprofits and has helped raise more than \$5 million for the nearly 30 nonprofit organizations for which he has served in leadership positions.

He has served on the Boys & Girls Club of the West for the past 13 years and is currently Chairman of the Board for the fifth year. Gary has served in leadership positions with the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley, United Chambers of the San Fernando Valley; the Valley Business Corps, and the Wellness Community for the Valley and Ventura.

Gary also has been active with the San Fernando Valley Business Advisory Commission and the San Fernando Valley Charitable Foundation.

Although Gary is being recognized for his activities in the San Fernando Valley, I know firsthand that he has also been active in many nonprofit and business activities in Ventura County as well.

A successful businessman, Gary is Senior Vice President and Creative Director for Aaron, Thomas & Associates in Chatsworth, a company that specializes in creative consulting, graphic design, printing, and direct mail services to the political sector and the general corporate market throughout the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join Janice and me in congratulating Gary Thomas for the honor of being the 2011 Fernando Award Recipient and in thanking him for making his community a better place for all to live, work, and thrive.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT GENERAL WILLIAM E. INGRAM, JR.

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments of a truly great soldier and North Carolinian, Lieutenant General William E. Ingram, Jr. In a recent Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on November 10th, 2011, Lieutenant General Ingram was confirmed as Director of the Army National Guard and on Monday, November 28th, 2011 he officially assumed the duties of the position. Also on November 28th, 2011, Lieutenant General Ingram received his new star from Army General Ray Odierno, chief of staff of the Army, and Air Force General Craig McKinley, chief of the National Guard Bureau.

For nearly four decades Lieutenant General Ingram has served our nation as an officer in the Army National Guard. He has commanded at all levels from platoon to battalion, overseas, and was especially effective as the Adjutant General of North Carolina for over nine years. I have no doubt in his ability to accomplish the wide-ranging requirements placed on the shoulders of the Director of the Army National Guard. He will perform his duties well, with honor and enthusiasm.

Lieutenant General Ingram was born and raised in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, and was a longtime resident of Williamston, North Carolina. I am proud to say both are located in the First Congressional District, which I have the honor of representing. His wife, Lil, has also been a tremendous asset to National Guard families and the citizens of North Carolina. She has worked tirelessly as an advocate for North Carolina National Guard families to help them cope with the deployment of family